

## ETV Completes Ground Water Sampling Technology Field Verification Test

**NASA Stennis Space Center, Mississippi** - The Site Characterization and Monitoring Technologies Pilot of the US EPA Environmental Technology Verification Program (ETV) recently completed a field verification test of six ground water sampling technologies at the NASA Stennis Space Center in SW Mississippi. Six technology vendors along with personnel from Sandia National Laboratories and the EPA-National Exposure Research Laboratory in Las Vegas endured August Gulf Coast summer days with 115+ F heat indices to complete a successful 10-day test.

A major portion of the testing was conducted at an above-ground 100-foot standpipe operated by the US Geological Survey, a tenant at the NASA facility. The standpipe, housed in a large hangar formerly used for Saturn rocket testing, served as an "above-ground" well that was spiked with various volatile organic compounds. Water samples, collected by the participating technology vendors at various depths from the standpipe, were matched with reference samples collected by Sandia technicians from external valves on the pipe exterior to assess sampler performance. Standpipe testing was complemented with sample collection at a number of conventional ground water monitoring wells at several Stennis sites with trichloroethene as the principal ground water contaminant.

The test design included the use of a field portable gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer system that has been previously verified in the ETV testing program. Over 800 water samples were analyzed on site using two side-by-side instruments and two analysts over the 10-day test. The important features of lab-grade, field-portable technology were clearly evident in this test: near real-time feedback on test results and quick turnaround time for all samples. All sample analyses were complete on the final day of the test.

Participating technology vendors were Burge Environmental (Tempe, AZ), Clean Environment Equipment (Oakland, CA), Geolog (Medina, NY), QED Environmental (Ann Arbor, MI), Sibak Industries (Solana Beach, CA) and W. L. Gore and Associates (Elkton, Md). Test results for each vendor will be documented in an ETV report, to be prepared by Sandia National Laboratories and expected to be ready for public release in late October 1999. For more information contact Wayne Einfeld at Sandia National Laboratories (505)-845-8314 or weinfeld@sandia.gov.

